provision under Drugs & Cosmetics Rules for import through personal licenses, which are issued to individual patient.

ACP to Allopathic System of Pharmacists

2564. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI GANDHI AZAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 2290 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th March, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the requisite clarifications have since been received from the DGHS/DOPT for grant of Assured Career Progression in case of Allopathic System of Pharmacists;

(b) if so, the details of the follow-up action taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has already been initiated to grant financial upgradation to the eligible Pharmacists (Allopathic) working under the CGHS.

(c) In view of (a) & (b) above, the question does not arise.

AIDS orphan children

2565. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of AIDS orphan children in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) how many are infected with the disease for the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of budgetary and institutional support made and provided for their rehabilitation; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by Government/NGOs to protect the children during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) Data regarding the number of AIDS orphan children in the country is not available.

(c) There is no budgetary provision and institutional support under the National AIDS Control Programme dedicated to the rehabilitation of such children affected with AIDS.

(d) The Government is up-scaling the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Programme (PMCTP) in the country, to reduce HIV transmission from infected mothers to their babies. This intervention was started in March 2000 in 11 institutions in the country; five in Maharashtra, three in Tamil Nadu and one each in States of Karnataka, Manipur and Andhra Pradesh. This programme has been upscaled and extended during year 2002 to cover all medical colleges and some of the district hospitals in the six high prevalence State namely, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Manipur and Nagaland.

Policy for purchase of medicines for CGHS

2566. SHRr SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suffered loss of crores of rupees for not adopting the procedure of wholesale purchase of medicines for CGHS;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to formulate a policy for the purchase of medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (d) The bulk purchase of medicines for CGHS are made through the Medical Stores Organisation (MSO) of the Dte. GHS. In cases where the MSO is not able to supply medicines or the Govt, specialist prescribes medicines outside the Govt, formulary, the CGHS procures the same based on the individual prescription of the beneficiaries from the authorised local chemists appointed by the CGHS. In the case of urgently needed drugs, authority slips are issued to the beneficiaries for immediate procurement through the authorised local chemist.